

Message Text

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63

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-05 SS-20 DRC-01 RSC-01 /053 W

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R 061610Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2295

USIA WASHDC

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1. MFA CULTDIV'S KAMENEV, DURING CALL SEPT 6 BY P&C COUNSELOR, MENTIONED THAT CULTURAL ATTACHE SAKOVICH RETURNING WASHINGTON EMBASSY SAME DAY WITH INSTRUCTIONS SUGGEST TO DEPARTMENT REVIEW TALKS BE SCHEDULED NO EARLIER THAN SECOND HALF NOVEMBER WHEN MFA'S OVERALL EXCHANGE PROGRAM PLANNING FOR 1975 WILL BE AT A MORE ADVANCED STATE.

2. KAMENEV EXPLICITLY EXPRESSED "HOPE" THAT U.S. SIDE WOULD BE READY TO DISCUSS PROGRESS IN ENCOURAGEMENT OF RUSSION LANGUAGE STUDY IN U.S. HE SUGGESTED ONE USEFUL STEP WOULD BE PLACEMENT ON AMERICAN TV OF RUSSION LANGUAGE FILMS "OF WHICH MANY GOOD ONES ARE AVAILABLE." HE REJECTED THOUGHT OF RECIPROCAL EXHCNAGE SUCH PROGRAMS ON GROUNDS THAT LEVEL OF ENGLISH KNOWLEDGE IN USSR WAS NO MUCH HIGHER THAN RUSSION LEVEL IN U.S., AND THAT ENGLISH ALREADY TAUGHT ON SOVIET TV.

COMMENT: ARGUMENT A FALLACIOUS ONE OBVIOUSLY, SINCE TV FILM IN FOREIGN LANGUAGE WOULD BE EVEN BETTER PRACTICE IF VIEWER HAD FAIR KNOWLEDGE OF LANGUAGE. HOWEVER EMBASSY SUGGESTS FORTHCOMING APPROACH TO THIS PRIORITY OF SOVIETS, IN WHICH SOME PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE. EMBASSY WILL PROVIDE REPORT DEVELOPMENTS WE ARE AWARE OF BEFORE TALKS. WHILE ENCOURAGING SOVIET INTEREST IN RUSSIAN STUDY WHERE FEASIBLE, WE SHOULD NOT RPT NOT CONCEDE ABSENCE OF ANY RECIPROCAL RELATIONSHIP. AS DEPT./USIA AWARE (COUNTRY PLAN AND RESPONSES), EMBASSY EXPECTS CAUTIOUSLY EXPLORE POSSIBILITIES AND USEFULNESS ASSISTANCE TO ENGLISH TEACHING HERE DURING YEAR AND WE WILL ATTEMPT EXPERIMENTAL PROJECT. WE KNOW INTEREST EXISTS AT MINED, UNIVERSITY, AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INSTITUTE LEVELS, IF NOT AT MFA, AND WISH TO KEEP OPTIONS

OPEN TO EXTENT POSSIBLE.

DUBS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EDUCATIONAL & CULTURAL EXCHANGE, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), MOTION PICTURES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: shawdg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974MOSCOW13604
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740248-0763
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740969/aaaacgch.tel
Line Count: 63
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 JUN 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <04 MAR 2003 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: n/a
TAGS: SCUL, UR, US
To: STATE USIA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005